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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON, a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, this is a day of memory, of a day of infamy. Life never can be the same again. The vivid, haunting images of the shocking attack by terrorists flash on the screen of our memory: the horror of the Trade Center towers crashing down; a crushing inferno filled with loved ones and friends; a gaping hole in the Pentagon torn by an airliner turned missile; a downed airplane in Pennsylvania kept from its destination here in the Capitol by heroes and heroines.

Six months later there has been some healing of our grief, a great rebirth of patriotism, and an indomitable resolve to win the war against terrorism. Most important of all is our confrontation with evil, death, and tragedy. These have made us reevaluate our priorities and once again put You first in our lives, our families second, our loyalty to our beloved Nation third, and our work and careers and the things money can buy last of all. We've vividly seen the shortness of life and the length of eternity.

On this 6-month anniversary of September 11, we turn our hearts to those who lost loved ones, especially the families and friends of the firefighters and police officers who made the supreme sacrifice. This will not be an easy day for them. Bless them with Your perfect peace and Your courage. Hear our prayer for our military engaged in the war against terrorism. We are united, we are one, we are Americans! And You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 11, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable E. Benjamin Nelson, a Senator from the State of Nebraska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Mexico.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be on the energy bill for the remainder of the day. There are no rollcall votes to occur today. The next rollcall vote will occur on Tuesday at approximately 10:30 a.m. Today, the floor will be open for debate on any amendment or for the consideration of any amendment that does not require a rollcall vote.

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 517, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Daschle/Bingaman further modified amendment No. 2917, in the nature of a substitute.

Feinstein amendment No. 2989 (to amendment No. 2917), to provide regulatory oversight over energy trading markets.

Bingaman/Domenici amendment No. 2990 (to amendment No. 2917) to promote collaboration between the United States and Mexico on research related to energy technologies.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. THOMAS are located in today's RECORD under "Morning Business.")

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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